



# Bitterroot National Forest

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## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **"All Fire Restrictions Lifted"**

Hamilton, Montana, September 21, 2007 — Stage I fire restrictions throughout the Bitterroot National Forest and area closures associated with the Rombo Fire have been lifted.

"We appreciate the public's respect for these closures," commented Forest Spokeswoman Nan Christianson. "It's been a long fire season and we recognize the impact these restrictions have on the public's ability to enjoy their forests."

Christianson reminds recreationists, wood cutters and other forest visitors of three things to keep in mind. First, although the Forest has received some moisture recently, the woods are still much dryer than normal and it's still important to be careful with fire. Secondly, she encourages forest users to be careful when traveling through recently burned as well as old burned areas. Standing burned trees can fall with little noise or provocation, and these can be deadly. And lastly, if you plan to travel on roads or trails through burned areas, be aware that burned trees and debris dislodged by fire activity can easily fall onto roads and trails. Please drive carefully and be prepared with equipment to move fallen logs and rocks out of the travel way.

Those traveling the Magruder Road may still encounter short delays due to fire activity along the corridor.

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